


ATHERTON URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief

Public Health Inspector

for

1971

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Atherton Urban District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Councillor J. WESTWELL

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor MRS. G. HORRABIN

Councillors

J. BURKE	P. JONES	R. SHAW
J. CLARKE	W. MURPHY	D. SKITT
F. FILDES	G. W. NALLY	J. SUMNER
L. B. HARDY	M. H. PARR	L. SUMNER
R. H. HAWKINS	F. J. POYSER	E. SWEENEY
L. ILLINGWORTH		

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

E. TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

**THOMAS McGUIRE, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., I.S.A.A. (Dip.), Cert.
R.S.H. for Meat Inspection**

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

ERIC WATT, M.A.P.H.I.

Cert. R.S.H. for Meat Inspection

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

P. C. JONES

AUTHORISED MEAT OFFICER

G. OWEN

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT—CLEAN AIR

T. BLAKELEY

CLERICAL ASSISTANT

MRS. A. HOPE

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Public Health Department

Town Hall,

Atherton.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present for your information and consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District of Atherton for the year ending 31st December, 1971.

Reference to the vital statistics shows a continuing satisfactory state. The Registrar Generals mid year estimate of population is increased by 880 over 1970, giving a figure of 21,620. There was an increase in registered births and a decrease in deaths from all causes - providing a natural increase of 107. Infant deaths remained at last years figure, which was most satisfactorily low at 10 per 1,000 live births. The causes of the deaths occurring exhibited the normal pattern i.e. heart disease followed by cancer and respiratory illness accounted for the major portion.

It is gratifying to be able to record the implementation of another smoke control area and steps are well advanced for its successor.

The incidence of communicable disease calls for no comment, beyond expressing the hope that immunisation against measles will now ensure an end to the biennial epidemic of this illness - which played havoc with so many families in the past.

It is most encouraging to note that it would appear that there is every reason to expect a once weekly collection of household refuse. All the more important now that almost 85% of the town will shortly be smokeless.

In conclusion, my thanks are due to my fellow officers in all departments for their co-operation, and to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their consideration and support throughout the year.

Yours sincerely,

E. TAYLOR.

SECTION A

Statistics

SECTION A

STATISTICS

General Statistics

Area in acres - 2,265.

Population :—

1961 Census - 19,755.

Mid-1971 Estimate - 21,620.

Number of inhabited houses 7,664.

Rateable Value - £592,413, at 31st December, 1971.

Sum represented by a 1p Rate - £5,522 at 31st December, 1971.

Vital Statistics

Live Births :—					Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	195	194	389
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	11	23
Total					<u>207</u>	<u>205</u>	<u>412</u>

Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) 19·9

Still Births :—					Males	Females	Total
					6	4	10

Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births) 24

DEATHS - All Causes :—					Males	Females	Total
					146	159	305

Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population) 14·1

Adjusted Death Rate (per 1,000 population) 13·3

Maternal Deaths Nil

Maternal Death Rate (per 1,000 total births) Nil

Infant Deaths :—

Under 1 year of age 4

Under 4 weeks of age 2

Under 1 week of age 1

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births 10

Peri-Natal Mortality Rate 26

TABLE I

VITAL STATISTICS

	*Live Births		Stillbirths		*Deaths (all causes)		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality Total		Nec-Natal Mortality	
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1971	412	19.1	10	24	305	14.1	Nil	Nil	4	10	3	26
Year 1970	385	18.6	11	28	311	14.1	Nil	Nil	4	10	3	35
Year 1969	401	20.2	5	12	358	14.4	Nil	Nil	5	12	2	7
Year 1968	362	18.2	8	22	354	14.5	Nil	Nil	25	22	7	41
Year 1967	364	18.4	13	34	289	12.9	Nil	Nil	7	11	7	37
Year 1966	432	22.1	12	27	327	13.7	Nil	Nil	16	37	12	27.8

Live birth rate (comparability factor, 1.04)

Death rate (comparability factor, 0.94)

TABLE II

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1971

Registrar General's Return

	Males	Females
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	1	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, Etc.	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	4	9
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	8	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	—
Leukaemia	1	—
Other Malignant Neoplasms	6	4
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	—	1
Diabetes Mellitus	—	2
Other Endocrine, Etc. Diseases	2	—
Anaemias	1	1
Mental Disorders	—	3
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	4
Hypertensive Disease	2	—
Ischæmic Heart Disease	43	34
Other Forms of Heart Disease	8	13
Cerebrovascular Disease	19	30
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	11
Pneumonia	6	10
Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	3
Asthma	—	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	6	3
Peptic Ulcer	3	1
Appendicitis	—	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—
Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	2	1
Congenital Anomalies	—	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	3	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	—
All Other Accidents	5	3
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	—	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	146	159

TABLE III

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth and death rates, together with case rates for certain infectious diseases, for England and Wales in the year 1971
(Provisional figures based on Registrar Generals
Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

Estimated home population mid-1971—48,815,000

Births

	No.	Rate per 1,000 home population
Live Births	783,165	16·0
Stillbirths	9,898	12·0

Deaths

Tuberculosis (all forms)	1,438	(a) 0·029
Respiratory	925	(a) 0·019
Late effects of respiratory tuberculosis	316	(a) 0·006
Other	197	(a) 0·004
Cancer (all forms)	116,897	(a) 2·39
Trachea, bronchus and lung	30,746	(a) 0·63
Other cancer	86,151	(a) 1·76
Maternal mortality (total)	133	(a) 0·17
Maternal causes (excluding abortion)	106	(b) 0·13
Due to abortion	27	(b) 0·03

Notifications (corrected)

Measles	135,204	2,770
Dysentery	10,684	0·219
Scarlet Fever	12,481	0·256
Whooping Cough	16,792	0·344
Infective Jaundice	14,118	0·289
Tuberculosis :		
Respiratory	9,136	0·187
Meninges and C.N.S.	123	0·003
Other forms	2,459	0·050
Diphtheria	17	0·000
Tetanus	29	0·001
Acute Meningitis	1,867	0·038
Acute Encephalitis :		
Infective	103	0·002
Post infectious	51	0·001
Ophthalmic neonatorum	418	0·009
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	Nil
Paralytic	7	0·000
Non-Paralytic	1	0·000
Leptospirosis	16	0·000
Paratyphoid fever	95	0·002
Typhoid fever	134	0·003
Food Poisoning	6,727	0·138
Anthrax	4	0·000
Smallpox	—	Nil
Plague	—	Nil
Cholera	3	0·000
Typhus fever	—	Nil
Relapsing fever	1	0·000
Yellow fever	—	Nil

(a) Per 1,000 home population.

(b) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services for the Area

SECTION B

HEALTH SERVICES

Ambulance

Atherton Ambulance Station, Back Orchard Lane. Telephone: Swinton 4343.

1. DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS AND POLIO-MYELITIS IMMUNISATION

(i) Every Monday and Wednesday afternoon. 1-30 to 3-30 p.m. (Alder House Clinic).

(ii) General Practitioner Service.

2. CHILD HEALTH CLINIC.

Alder House.

Each Monday and Wednesday, 1-30 to 3-30 p.m.

RELAXATION CLASS, Wednesday, 10 a.m.

3. OPHTHALMIC

Alder House Clinic, by appointment.

Each Tuesday morning.

4. ORTHOPAEDIC

Poplar Street Clinic, Tyldesley, by appointment.

Friday afternoon.

5. CERVICAL CYTOLOGY

Alder House Clinic.

By appointment.

6. SCHOOL HEALTH

Alder House Clinic

By appointment.

DENTAL CLINIC (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday).

7. CHEST CLINIC

Chest Clinic, Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.

8. VENEREAL DISEASES

(i) Civic Centre Bolton.

Males and Females: Monday to Friday, 9-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 4-30 to 6-30 p.m.

Males and Females: Saturday, 9 to 11 a.m.

(ii) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.

Males: Friday, 2 to 6-30 p.m.

Females: Wednesday, 2 to 6 p.m.

(iii) Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.

Males and Females: Monday, 9-30 to 10-30 a.m.

Convalescence

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire C.C. through the Divisional Medical Officer.

Convalescent Treatment

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board through the Local Hospital Management Committee.

Health Visiting Service

Full-time Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed in the area by the Lancashire C.C.

Home Nursing Service

District Nurses employed by the Lancashire C.C. are available in the district.

Hospitals

1. GENERAL

Leigh Infirmary, Atherleigh Hospital, Astley Hospital.

2. INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Hulton Lane Fever Hospital, Bolton; Whelley Hospital, Wigan.

3. MATERNITY

Billinge Hospital, Billinge.

Laboratory Facilities

Regional Hospital Board Laboratories at Bolton, Leigh and Wigan Infirmarys and the Withington Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Maternity Homes

Firs Maternity Home, Leigh.

Midwifery Service

Domiciliary midwives employed whole-time in the area by Lancashire C.C.

Nursing Homes

None in the district.

X-ray Facilities

At Leigh and Wigan Infirmarys. Facilities for special chest cases at the Chest Clinic, Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.

2000-2001
Annual Report

SECTION C
Prevalence of and Control
over
Infectious and other Diseases

SECTION C

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diphtheria

No case occurred.

Dysentery

Two suspect cases were proven negative following investigation.

Food Poisoning

Of five cases notified as suspected food poisoning, one case only proved positive.

Measles

A low incidence recorded figure of 23 cases notified as against the previous year figure of 282 cases.

Meningococcal Infection

One case notified in an infant under one year of age.

Paratyphoid Fever

No notifications for the year.

Poliomyelitis

No notifications of this disease. Oral Vaccine continues to be available at the Alder House Clinic.

Scarlet Fever

50 cases notified for the year, mostly in the age group 5 to 10 years.

Smallpox

No cases or contacts notified for the year.

Tuberculosis

Respiratory cases, 5 males and 1 female. Non respiratory; 1 female.

Typhoid Fever

No notifications for the year.

Whooping Cough

Two cases only notified, in infants under 3 years of age.

TABLE IV

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR, 1971

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED											
	Years											
	Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 & over
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles, excl. German Measles	4	9	2	—	—	6	2	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	2	4	8	11	15	7	—	1	1	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Males	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1
Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	83	5	13	9	11	21	9	1	3	2	1	1

TABLE V Table relating to Vital Statistics and Notified Infectious Diseases in other years

Year	Birth-rate	Death-rate		Infantile Mortality Rate	Diphtheria		Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under two years)	Measles		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Scarlet Fever		Typhoid Fever	
		Actual	Adjusted		Cases	Deaths		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1900	36.7	16.49	...	161.6	3	3	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	2	13	2
1905	30.9	13.7	...	141.8	40	3	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	5	17	5
1910	26.47	14.67	...	154.1	20	2	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	3	19	3
1915	25.44	13.11	...	103.09	31	3	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	2	7	2
1920	24.1	12.1	...	109	24	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	1
1925	15.4	10.9	...	63	29	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
1930	15.3	10.6	...	61	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
1935	13.3	12.6	...	73	10	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
1938	13.6	10.2	11.6	42	127	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1940	15.5	12.0	...	35	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1943	18.2	12.8	...	74	12	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1945	17.9	11.3	...	23	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1946	17.6	10.9	...	33	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1947	19.7	13.3	...	50	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1955	12.6	13.0	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1957	14.6	15.8	14.0	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1959	15.6	15.4	17.4	6.5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1960	16.5	12.7	15.1	21.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1961	16.2	14.1	14.6	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1962	18.1	15.9	15.3	22.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1963	17.7	14.4	14.1	26.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1964	17.4	13.7	14.1	35.4	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1965	19.1	13.9	12.0	27.2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1966	22.1	16.1	13.7	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1967	18.4	14.1	12.9	41	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1968	18.2	17.1	14.5	41	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1969	20.2	17.2	14.4	7	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1970	18.6	15.0	14.1	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1971	19.9	14.1	13.3	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

SECTION D

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

SECTION D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply

All dwellings and trade establishments in the town are connected to Town Water mains supply and there are no Private Wells or supplies in this area. The Manchester Corporation Water undertaking is the responsible authority for the supply, which is derived from their Thirlmere and Haweswater catchment areas.

The supply is regular, and the water is of good quality and pressure, except that small "pockets" do suffer from poor pressure and abnormal colour at times, but this is usually found to be a temporary inconvenience and consultation with the Engineers resolves this matter. There was no public health risk due to such minor inconvenience. Complaints were 3 in number for the year.

Water samples submitted to the Analyst gave a satisfactory Bacteriological and Chemical result with a Flouride content of not more than 0.15 ppm.

Streams

The various Brooks and Streams - 11 in number - that flow through the town area are kept under surveillance throughout the year for purposes of pollution and flooding. No pollutants were found, but action was necessary to remove and clear debris and litter from these streams, particularly at the mouth of culverts and bridges, to prevent flooding.

It is always distressing to see streams and brooks cluttered and bespoiled with a multitude of miscellaneous material that detracts from the environment, impedes the dry weather flow and causes risk of flooding in periods of heavy rain.

There are no chemical or Dye-stuff works effluents in the area and the Mersey and Weaver Rivers Board authority, coupled with our Local Authority Engineering Staff, ensure that the sewer storm water overflows comply with the requirement of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act.

Drainage and Sewage

The whole of the town's sewage is dealt with by the Leigh & Atherton Joint Sewage Board at their Mather Lane Sewage Works, Leigh.

The major portion of the system is of the combined drainage system, but new property development is being set out for the separate system of drainage and sewage. The systems have to

comply with Bye-laws in force, made under the Public Health Act, 1961 and Highways Act.

No major sewer laying projects took place during 1971, but small sections of "relief sewers" were laid along with minor anti-flooding engineering work.

There is still a small number of residential property on the outskirts of the town, served by septic tank disposal.

Sanitary Accommodation

At the end of 1971 the approximate numbers and types of closet accommodation were as follows :

Number of Privy Middens	Nil
Number of Pail Closets	Nil
Number of Trough Closets	Nil
Number of Waste-Water Closets	Nil
Number of Freshwater Closets	8,908
Number of Dry Ashpits	Nil
Number of Moveable Ashbins	9,116
Number of Houses on Water Carriage System	7,664

Disinfestation

The number of houses requiring disinfestation during 1971 was 15 in total (9 Council Owned and 6 other owners).

Treatment in all cases is carried out by the Public Health Department Staff and consists of use of residual insecticide spray and powders and lacquers. Beds, Walls and Woodwork are treated (casings are 'eased') and if treatment does not give satisfactory results after one application then further treatment is given.

All households are treated free of charge and where any household effects are found to be of deep seated infestation, it has proved possible to persuade tenants to let it be destroyed.

Commercial undertakings requiring the services of the department pay an agreed sum for the treatment.

The Bolton County Borough will make available their disinfestation centre if this were required.

Public Cleansing

The refuse collection and disposal is under the control of the Chief Public Health Inspector, who is also responsible for disposal of refuse from the adjoining township of Tyldesley.

Collection throughout the year was carried out using three pakamatic, compression type, rear loading vehicles, one of 35 cubic yards and two of 20 cubic yards capacity. They cover a collection of over 9,000 ash bins for houses, shops, schools, public houses and smaller industry. The larger industrial concerns employ contract bulk waste disposal firms, with access to tipping at a contract rate.

There are 2 teams of drivers plus 5 loaders and 1 team of driver plus 4 loaders, but the Council have engaged work study officers to draw up an agreed scheme, with bonus incentive, to produce a complete town collection in the 5 day working week. This is scheduled to be operative early 1972.

Plastic bin liner sacks were provided for household storage during the various holiday periods.

All refuse is disposed of on the Council Owned refuse tip, known as Swan Island Quarry. A track shovel is used for Control and a recently purchased 'dumper' is used to transport inert material as cover. Industrial screening of the periphery of the tip prevents paper oddments from being blown over the surrounding fields.

'Totters' and scavengers become an embarrassment after working hours and present probably the most difficult feature to control.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The operation of this important piece of Legislation continued smoothly throughout the year, with no serious contraventions.

The legislation covers the welfare provisions of this Act as applied to office and shop workers and the number of personnel so covered in some 150 places of employment is approximately 570 persons.

It is the duty of the management to cause notification of accidents to be submitted to this office, which are investigated and notification of the investigation forwarded to the Divisional Factory Inspector.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Some 93 inspections carried out during the year, causing 20 notices to be served, calling for rectification of what were happily, not serious infringement.

Overall conditions are quite good and management more aware of the higher standards demanded by the worker.

A Table showing details is given in the body of this report.

Rodent Control

A fully trained Rodent Operator is employed by the department and all rodent operations in the district are carried out by this man. He carries out his duty on all private and Council owned dwellings and buildings and is engaged by Private enterprise to carry out monthly survey and treatment on up to a score of premises, covering Mills, Engineering Works and their associated Canteens, Slaughterhouses and the like.

Private and Council owned properties are given a free service but private enterprise are on a monthly contract basis.

It is becoming increasingly more apparent that Warfarin poison bait is not the potent treatment that it was, and inclusion of Zinc phosphide is often added in treatment for Mice particularly.

The half-yearly treatment of the sewers of the district were carried out in accordance with Ministry regulations and no excessive or heavy pockets of infestation was noticed. The treatment is well worth while and very satisfactory.

Table VIII - (Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949) sets out the details for the year and these figures are submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food half-yearly and Annually.

Swimming Baths

A very popular well managed public swimming baths situated in Mayfield Street in the Town centre is owned and controlled by this Council.

The main plunge is 75 ft. x 30 ft. holding 76,000 gallons of water. The water is town mains, sand filtered and chlorinated to a break point of 2 parts per million. The continuous flow method of filling and emptying takes roughly 4 hours to complete the cycle.

Schools, Swimming Clubs and general public enjoy a good sound physical recreation and at all times the baths are manned and supervised by a member of the staff who possesses the required life saving certificate. A fully qualified superintendent is in charge and daily water tests are taken by him to control chlorine dosage. Water samples submitted by the public health department to the public laboratory have shown satisfactory bacteriological results.

SCHOOLS

There are 14 schools in the district; primary, secondary modern and special, and one training centre. All are served with town mains water supply and all have adequate sanitary accommodation with drainage to the sewers.

Canteen layout, meals service, supervision and washing up facilities are quite good and generally a tasty and well served meal is provided.

Hand washing facilities, hot water, soap and towels are adequate and under supervision are well used.

Some new toilet blocks have superseded the older blocks which have now been demolished, while other school building is in course of erection and further Form II entry schools are in the planning stages.

Some older boiler house plant gives trouble at times, particularly in Clean Air Zones, but these are being actively pursued and will remain under constant review until satisfactory adaptations are secured.

Offensive Trades :

There are no offensive trade establishments in the town.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

There are no houses in multiple occupation or common lodging houses in the district.

Rag Flock Act

One shop is registered under the Act, and the use of synthetic materials increases the degree of control.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963
(A) REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS
TABLE VI

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	—	23	10
Retail Shops	—	107	72
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	1	12	9
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	11	11
Fuel storage depots	—	Nil	Nil
Totals	1	153	102

Total number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises under the Act **139**

(B) ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Section	Number of Contraventions found		Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	8	13	Sitting facilities	6
5	Overcrowding	—	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	—
6	Temperature	21	15	Eating facilities	1
7	Ventilation	2	16	Floors, passage and stairs	15
8	Lighting	8	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	4
9	Sanitary conveniences	5	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	2
10	Washing facilities	3	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	—
11	Supply of drinking water	2	23	Prohibition of heavy work	—
12	Clothing accommodation	17	24	First Aid	15
				Other matters	—
TOTAL					109

TABLE VII
FACTORIES ACT, 1961

	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	9	3	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	80	80	17	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' Premises)	4	4	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Total	90	93	20	—
	—	—	—	—

Defects Found in Factories and Workshops

Nuisances under the Public Health and Factory Acts :—

	Found	Abated	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness	12	10	2
Inadequate Ventilation	2	2	—
Unreasonable Temperature	—	—	—
Drainage of Floors	1	1	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation :—			
Insufficient	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	5	3	4
Not separate for sexes	1	1	—
Other Offences against the Act	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Total	21	17	6
	—	—	—

TABLE VIII
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
(I) Number of Rodent Operatives employed—One.		
(II) Properties other than Sewers :		
(a) Number of properties in district	9358	11
(b) Total number of properties inspected following notification	392	2
(c) Number of (b) infested by rats	182	2
mice	210	—
(d) Number of properties inspected for rats and for mice for reasons other than notification	9	2
(e) Number of (d) infected by mice	5	—
rats	4	1
(III) Sewer Treatment —		

The sewers of the town were treated twice during the year.

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Places under Inspection

The number of food premises, by type of business, at end of 1971 were as follows :

Grocers	84
Bakers and/or Confectioners	18
Confectioners (sweets, minerals, ice cream), etc.	43
Fried Fish Shops	17
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked meat, tripe, etc.)	23
Greengrocers	9
Fishmongers	7
Canteens, Snack Bars and Licensed Premises	48
Others	4

Premises registered under the provisions of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1951, include :—

	No. of Premises	No. of Inspections during 1971
Hawkers—Fish, Fruit and Vegetables	9	21
„ Meat and Meat Products	4	11
Bakehouses	12	18
Fried Fish Shops	17	21
Sausages, etc., Preparing Premises	16	21
Cooked Meat Preparing Premises	3	19
Ice Cream Shops	48	67

Food Premises

Inspection of all types of food premises were carried out during the course of the year to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

It was not found necessary to take any legal action for contraventions of the Regulations since informal action secured rectification of unsatisfactory conditions.

Management are ready to comply in order to avoid prosecution and in response to the growing public demand for clean food.

Sampling of food for adulteration, "foreign bodies" and labelling is carried out by Officers of the Lancashire County Council in liason with the Public Health Department staff. Details of food samples procured during the year by the Sampling Officers are contained in this report.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are two Licensed Slaughterhouses in the district, one in the West Ward and the other in South Ward. No Knackers Yard or Horse slaughtering and no pigs.

Slaughtering is carried out on the six days, Monday to Saturday and only emergency cattle would be done on Sunday.

The Authorised Meat Officer is employed full time on inspectorial duties and relief is afforded to him on holidays and Saturdays by fully qualified Public Health Inspectors. All carcase meat and offal are inspected in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations and the high quality of the cattle is reflected in the low numbers of complete carcase requiring condemnation.

The structure the the buildings and the facilities afforded are satisfactory and the maintenance of rails, hooks, beams and transport vehicles are carried out on a reasonably good schedule.

Details of all animals slaughtered for the year are tabulated herewith.

	Cattle (excl. cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep
No. Slaughtered	3317	549	209	29412
No. Inspected	3317	549	209	29412
All Diseases other than T.B.				
Whole Carcases condemned	—	1	1	21
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	596	223	1	5732
Percentage of No. Inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	17.93	40.54	0.5	19.04
Tuberculosis only				
Whole Carcases condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—
Cysticerosis				
Carcases of which part or organ was condemned	1	1	—	—

Milk Supply

Producers and retailers of milk within the Urban District must comply with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations. Licences issued under these Regulations are the responsibility of the Lancashire County Council and the Officers of that Authority carry out sampling for adulteration.

The bacteriological examination of milk for cleanliness is the responsibility of the Health Department and samples are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination.

Positive Laboratory reports indicating the presence of brucellosis results in a detailed examination and sampling of the herd concerned, pasteurization of all infected milk and in the ultimate the removal from the herd of any animal concerned.

Two herds in the district are now declared "Brucellosis free" in accordance with Ministry requirements.

	Total No. of Samples	Positive	RESULT Negative	Void
(1) Samples for biological examination :				
(a) Tuberculosis	6	—	6	—
(b) Brucellosis :				
Ring Test	16	3	13	—
Culture Test	16	1	15	—
	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	RESULT Unsatisfactory	Void
(2) Raw Milk :				
Methylene Blue Test	3	3	—	—
(3) Heat Treated Milk :				
(a) Methylene Blue Test	4	4	—	—
(b) Phosphatase Test	4	4	—	—

Food Inspection

The Public Inspectors carry out the examination and, where necessary the condemnation of food which is unfit for human consumption. Formal action under the Food and Drugs Act is rarely necessary since Management aware of these matters are normally willing to surrender such food voluntarily upon request.

All unsound food is removed and disposed of under the supervision of officers of the Public Health Department and details of these foods are listed.

Details of foods sampled by officers of the Lancashire County Council are also appended.

The County Sampling Officers sample foods offered for sale to the public and the list of foods so sampled for the year is tabulated in this report.

Food Inspection

	Number	Weight
Soups	185	151 lbs.
Tinned Meats	230	283 lbs.
Tinned Fruits	347	360 lbs.
Tinned Vegetables	334	226 lbs.
Others (fish, tomatoes, etc.)	752	463 lbs.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

A total of 27 samples were obtained comprising 19 milks (2 of which where Channel Islands Milk) and 8 others as follows :

- 2 Soft Drink Cordial.
- 3 Comminuted Concentrated Orange Juice.
- 1 Mushroom Canned.
- 1 Smoked Fish.
- 1 Kippers.

I give details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports :—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Comminuted Concentrated Orange Juice	Sulphite content (expressed as sulphur dioxide) 1400 parts per million.	
" " "	Sulphite content (expressed as sulphur dioxide) 1270 parts per million.	Confirmation of notification obtained from manufacturer.
" " "	Sulphite content (expressed as sulphur dioxide) 1320 parts per million.	
Mushrooms canned	Contained the cellulose acetate filter from a filter tip cigarette having a small amount of cigarette paper still adhering to it and weighing (when dried and extracted free from fat) 0.135 gm.	Prosecution Fined : £25 Cost : £13

SECTION F

Housing

SECTION F

HOUSING

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—	Houses	Flats
(i) By the Local Authority	20	25
(ii) By other Local Authorities	—	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	22	—

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	421
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	677
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit :	
(a) Number dealt with during the Year	13
(b) Number (or estimated number) at end of year	142
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	275

2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1957 and 1961) :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses demolished during year :	
(a) Unfit houses	48
(b) Other houses	13
(2) Number of persons displaced	132
(3) Families	47

3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas :—

	No. of houses	No. of persons displaced
(1) Houses demolished or closed during year :— Housing Act, 1957 :—		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure	2	2
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 16 and still in force	2	2

(2) Repairs during the year :—

	*No. of houses
(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	37
(b) Public Health Acts—action after service of formal notice—Houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(i) By owners	6
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(c) Housing Act, 1957—action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11) :— Houses made fit :—	
(i) By owners	—
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

4. **Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954) :—**

(1) Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7	Nil
(2) Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) above	Nil
(3) Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6)	Nil

*A defective house remedied more than once during the year is included once only.

Housing Act, 1949—Improvement Grants, etc.
Action during the year :—

	No. of Dwellings Affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority	54
(b) Approved by Local Authority	41
(c) Submitted by L.A. to Ministry	382
(d) Approved by the Ministry	194
(e) Works completed	130

House Purchase & Housing Act, 1959—

Standard Grants—

	No. of Dwellings Affected
(a) Applications submitted to L.A.	67
(b) Applications approved by L.A.	67
(c) Work completed	61

General Inspections

Houses (including re-visits)	2011
Schools	24
Factories and workplaces	127
Bakehouses	81
Food preparing premises and shops	169
Miscellaneous, etc.	391
Slaughterhouses	22
Inspectorial	892
	<hr/>
	3717

In connection with these inspections, the following nuisances and defects were found and remedied, viz.:—

	Found	Remedied
House roofs in need of repair	58	56
Defective W.C.'s.	33	33
Chocked or defective drains	53	53
Insanitary conditions of yards	8	6
Defective plaster on walls, etc.	77	69
House walls damp	76	62
Defective Windows, etc.	27	19
Defective eaves & gutters	16	12
Animals kept as to be a nuisance	5	5
Miscellaneous (floors, stairs, etc.)	101	91
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	454	406

Arising from these nuisances and defects, the following notices were served, viz. :

Informal	271
Statutory	15

GENERAL - Conditions and Observations

The slight fall in population noted last year has proved to be a temporary state of affairs and the general upward trend of recent years continues. The mid year estimate for 1971 is given as 21,620, an increase of 880 over the 1970 figure.

The sum represented by a 1p rate is £5,522 and the rateable value of the town is shown as £592,413.

Nuts and bolts, spinning, electrical component manufacture, and soft drinks continue to form the mainstay of industry in the town. In addition the Lancashire United Transport Company operate a large omnibus fleet over a wide area.

The Council's programme for the modernisation of pre-war Council houses continues to provide an improved standard of comfort and amenity in these properties.

In November the responsibility for the administration of the Housing Act, 1969, in relation to Improvement Grants in the private section became the responsibility of the Health Department.

4828 dwellings are now covered by Smoke Control Areas the No. 7 Smoke Control Area is in an advanced stage of preparation and is due to be submitted to the Minister for confirmation.

The Council's review of the refuse collection services was progressing during the year and will result in the introduction of a productivity based incentive bonus scheme designed to ensure a weekly collection of household refuse.

SECTION G

Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement

SECTION G

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT

Atmospheric Pollution

The No. 6 Order which was made by the Council in December 1969, became operative on the 1st July, 1971. There are now 4828 dwellings in the town covered by 6 operative Smoke Control Areas.

The acreage covered to date is 1899. The acreage of the town is given as 2265 and the number of inhabited dwellings as 7664.

Two atmospheric pollution stations are operated and the information obtained is collated and forwarded to D.S.I.R. Laboratory at Warren Springs for inclusion in their national statistics.

Tables of recordings summarised as monthly averages are contained herein :—

AV. DAILY AMOUNTS OF POLLUTION IN MICROGRAMMES PER CU. METRE OF AIR

Month	SMOKE		SO ₂	
	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Hall	Parks Garage
January	245	156	117	73
February	190	123	91	69
March	164	122	164	81
April	125	87	77	59
May	83	58	64	53
June	66	44	46	41
July	46	35	45	27
August	71	49	47	37
September	134	98	48	49
October	127	91	51	46
November	209	123	79	64
December	160	125	95	51

Tables showing the average daily amount of pollution for the years
1968, 1969, 1970, expressed as microgrammes per cubic metre

	1968						1969						1970					
	Smoke			Sulphur Dioxide			Smoke			Sulphur Dioxide			Smoke			Sulphur Dioxide		
	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Hall	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Hall	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Hall	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Hall	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Hall	Town Hall	Parks Garage	
January	212	178	135	70			247	267	184	89		156	107	138	49			
February	312	270	218	140			269	206	177	97		158	99	129	60			
March	152	138	74	54			198	130	136	90		179	65	127	45			
April	132	122	102	102			138	80	107	65		90	57	78	51			
May	126	117	76	68			116	49	92	49		44	38	65	41			
June	37	62	21	42			72	33	59	39		23	18	87	45			
July	68	66	36	52			34	23	45	31		26	17	58	43			
August	51	43	32	39			54	30	57	33		31	29	52	59			
September ...	98	84	68	43			109	56	78	51		61	80	73	54			
October	186	127	120	61			112	70	100	48		137	89	90	52			
November ...	246	157	196	89			182	99	109	54		138	99	76	36			
December ...	273	183	203	88			263	153	143	65		188	181	79	48			

